DRDAs Under Panchayat Zilla Parishads

1082. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to bring the DPDAs under the over all supervision, control and guidance of the Panchayat Zila Parishads;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to implement the above proposal;

(c) whether Government have made any interaction with the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION) (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Instructions have been issued to State governments to restructure the DRDAs accordingly.

(b) and (d) After the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution a Conference of State Panchayat Ministers and a Workshop of Project Directors of DRDAs were held where this issue was discussed. It was felt necessary to have a closer coordination between the Zilla Parishads and DRDAs. States have now been advised that DRDAs should function under the overall supervision, control and guidance of Zilla Parishads. Chairman of Zilla Parishad would be the ex-officio Chairman of the Governing Body of DRDAs and would preside over it meetings. District collector/DM/Deputy Commissioner are to be designated as Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director of Zilla Parishads and will preside over the Meetings of the executive Committee of DRDA. The Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishad will be the Member Secretary of the Governing Body of the DRDA.

Widening of Railway Track in Andhra Pradesh

1083. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government would examine the need to widen the distance between Railway tracks in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) Whether it is a fact that the limited space between two sets of different tracks is leading to disruption of rail traffic when accidents occur;

(c) Whether Government propose to ensure that there is a minimum of 20 feet distance between two sets of tracks; and

(d) The steps proposed to counter this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) The distance between two tracks is fixed on the basis of moving dimensions of rolling stock likely to move in the section. As such there is no proposal of increasing distance between the existing tracks in Andhra Pradesh or at other places.

(b) At times traffic distruption takes place in case of accidents.

(c) It has now been decided that for future projects, the present minimum recommended distance of 4.75 m (15'6") between centre to centre of tracks be increased to 9.45 m (31'0").

(d) The widening of distance between existing sets of tracks will mean dismantaling of existing track and its relaying will be a huge work requiring massive investment. Further, such a proposal to widen the distance between existing track will also require acquisition of land which is attendant with difficulties.

Unauthorised Construction in DDA Colonies

1084. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether large scale unauthorised construction in DDA colony of Sarita Vihar has come to the notice of senior officers of DDA during their visits to this colony;

(b) whether these officers have also noticed the encroachments on almost all